

Good afternoon,

I am writing in opposition of HB 5447. I strongly feel that this bill would negatively impact the students with special needs in Connecticut. Right now there are specialized programs that are able to provide adequate services to students in need. With financial restrictions placed on private facilities, appropriate services for these students would less likely be available. These students are placed in private, specialized facilities to ensure they get the best services that they need and deserve. Each student requires such a highly individualized program and that would undoubtedly be greatly impacted if financial restrictions were placed on these private providers. Countless students and families would be effected by this and the effects would be seen far into these students adult years. Our students and families in Connecticut deserve the absolute best services that can be provided for them. There is no reason that anything should be taken away from these students, which is what this bill would clearly be doing. Please take my opposition to this bill into strong consideration. Connecticut families need to see that the state supports them and the hardships they endure from day to day.

Kate Swatkowski  
Shelton, CT

Sent from my iPhone